

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 22 through 41 were previously cancelled. None of the claims have been amended herein. All of the pending claims 1 through 21 are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

1. (Previously presented) A platform assembly comprising:
a first assembly having at least one longitudinally extending member;
a second assembly having at least one longitudinally extending member, the second assembly being longitudinally, slidably coupled with the first assembly, the first assembly and the second assembly cooperatively defining an intended working surface;
at least one catch member pivotably coupled to the first assembly, the at least one catch member being pivotable about an axis that is substantially parallel to the intended working surface and substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the at least one longitudinally extending member of the first assembly; and
at least one stop member coupled to the first assembly and configured to maintain a rotation of the at least one catch member at less than a full revolution.
2. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one longitudinally extending member of the first assembly includes a first plurality of substantially parallel longitudinally extending members and wherein the at least one longitudinally extending member of the second assembly includes a second plurality of substantially parallel longitudinally extending members.
3. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 2, further comprising at least one catch member pivotably coupled to the second assembly.

4. (Previously presented) The platform assembly of claim 3, further comprising at least one stop member coupled to the second assembly and configured to maintain a rotation of the at least one catch member coupled to the second assembly at less than a full revolution.

5. (Previously presented) A platform assembly comprising:
a first assembly having a first plurality of substantially parallel longitudinally extending members;
a second assembly having a second plurality of substantially parallel longitudinally extending members, the second assembly being longitudinally, slidably coupled with the first assembly;
at least one catch member pivotably coupled to the first assembly, wherein the at least one catch member is configured to exhibit a substantially bell-shaped geometry along a cross section taken substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the first plurality of longitudinally extending members; and
at least one stop member coupled to the first assembly and configured to maintain a rotation of the at least one catch member at less than a full revolution.

6. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 5, wherein the at least one stop member includes a lateral support member extending through an opening defined in each of the first plurality of longitudinally extending members.

7. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 6, further comprising a plurality of spacers wherein at least one spacer of the plurality of spacers is disposed between adjacent longitudinally extending members of the first plurality of longitudinally extending members.

8. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of spacers is disposed about a portion of the lateral support member.

9. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein at least one of the first and second pluralities of longitudinally extending members are each formed of a material comprising aluminum.

10. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein at least one of the first and second pluralities of longitudinally extending members are each formed of a composite material.

11. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 10, wherein the composite material includes fiberglass.

12. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 10, wherein the composite material includes a thermosetting resin.

13. (Previously presented) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein at least one longitudinally extending member of the first and second pluralities of longitudinally extending members exhibits a closed polygonal cross-sectional geometry taken substantially transverse to a longitudinal axis thereof.

14. (Previously presented) The platform assembly of claim 13, wherein the closed polygonal cross-sectional geometry includes a substantial rectangular geometry.

15. (Previously presented) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein at least one longitudinally extending member of the first and second pluralities of longitudinally extending members exhibits a substantially I-beam shaped cross-sectional geometry taken substantially transverse to a longitudinal axis thereof.

16. (Previously presented) A platform assembly comprising:
a first assembly having a first plurality of substantially parallel longitudinally extending members;
a second assembly having a second plurality of substantially parallel longitudinally extending members, the second assembly being longitudinally, slidably coupled with the first assembly, wherein at least one of the first and second pluralities of longitudinally extending members exhibits a cross-sectional geometry taken substantially transverse to a longitudinal axis thereof having a first section adjacent a first end thereof, a second section adjacent a second opposing section thereof and at least a third section disposed between the first section and the second section, wherein the at least a third section exhibits a lesser width than either of the first section and the second section;
at least one catch member pivotably coupled to the first assembly; and
at least one stop member coupled to the first assembly and configured to maintain a rotation of the at least one catch member at less than a full revolution.

17. (Original) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein the first plurality of longitudinally extending members is interleaved with the second plurality of longitudinally extending members.

18. (Previously presented) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein the first assembly and the second assembly cooperatively define a second, opposing surface relative to the intended working surface, wherein the second, opposing surface is substantially identical to the intended working surface.

19. (Previously presented) The platform assembly of claim 2, wherein the intended working surface includes a textured surface.

20. (Previously presented) A method of securing an elevated platform, the method comprising:

- providing a first elevated support;
- providing a first catch member with an associated stop member on the platform;
- displacing at least a first portion of the platform laterally in a first direction until the catch member is positioned substantially beyond at least a portion of the first elevated support;
- displacing the at least a first portion of the platform laterally in a second direction until the first catch member engages the at least a portion of the first elevated support;
- further displacing the at least a first portion of the platform laterally in the second direction while substantially simultaneously rotating the first catch member in a direction towards the associated stop member; and
- abutting the first catch member against the associated stop member and against the at least a portion of the first elevated support such that the first catch member prevents further displacement of the at least a first portion of the platform in the second direction.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20, further comprising:
providing a second elevated support laterally spaced from the first elevated support;
providing a second catch member with an associated stop member on the platform;
laterally displacing a second portion of the platform relative to the at least a first portion of the platform in the second direction until the second catch member is positioned substantially beyond at least a portion of the second elevated support;
laterally displacing the second portion of the platform relative to the at least a first portion of the platform in the first direction until the second catch member engages the at least a portion of the second elevated support;
further displacing the second portion of the platform laterally relative to the at least a first portion of the platform in the first direction while substantially simultaneously rotating the second catch member in a direction towards its associated stop member; and
abutting the second catch member against its associated stop member and against the at least a portion of the second elevated support such that the second catch member prevents further displacement of the second portion of the platform in the first direction.

22.-41. (Cancelled)